

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648–XD080]

**Marine Mammals and Endangered Species**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of a permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to the following entity under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as applicable.

**ADDRESSES:** The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sara Young (Permit No. 26254) at (301) 427–8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice was published in the **Federal Register** on the date listed below that a request for a permit had been submitted by the below-named applicant. To locate the **Federal Register** notice that announced our receipt of the application and a complete description of the activities, go to <https://www.federalregister.gov> and search on the permit number provided in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1—ISSUED PERMITS

Permit No.	RTID	Applicant	Previous <b>Federal Register</b> notice	Issuance date
26254 .....	0648–XB798 .....	Alaska Department of Fish & Game, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701 (Responsible Party: Lori Quakenbush).	87 FR 8235, February 14, 2022.	May 16, 2023.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

As required by the ESA, as applicable, issuance of this permit was based on a finding that such permit: (1) was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

*Authority:* The requested permit has been issued under the MMPA of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the ESA of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226), as applicable.

Dated: June 9, 2023.

**Julia M. Harrison,**

*Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2023–12705 Filed 6–13–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Antarctic Marine Living Resources Conservation and Management Measures**

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2023 (88 FR 9253) during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

*Title:* Antarctic Marine Living Resources Conservation and Management Measures.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–0194.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

*Number of Respondents:* 86.

*Average Hours per Response:* One hour to apply for a CEMP research permit; 1 hour to report on research; 28 hours to supply information on potential new or exploratory fishing; 2 hours to apply for a harvesting permit; 2 minutes to transmit information by radio; 4 hours to install a vessel monitoring device (VMS); 2 hours for annual VMS maintenance; 5 minutes for installation checklist; 15 minutes to mark a vessel; 5 minutes to mark buoys; 10 hours to mark pot gear; 2 minutes to mark trawl nets; 15 minutes to provide notice of transshipment within the Convention Area; 5 minutes to request for observer; 15 minutes to apply for a permit to be a first receiver of Antarctic marine living resources; 15 minutes to apply for pre-approval of toothfish imports; 30 minutes to complete a fresh toothfish reporting form; 15 minutes to complete and submit re-export catch documents; 15 minutes to submit import tickets.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 382.

*Needs and Uses:* This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection. The 1982 Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (Convention) established the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). The United States is a Contracting Party to the Convention. The Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act (AMLRCA) directs and authorizes the United States to take actions necessary to meet its treaty obligations as a Contracting Party to the Convention. The regulations

implementing AMLRCA are at 50 CFR part 300, subpart G. The record keeping and reporting requirements at 50 CFR part 300 form the basis for this collection of information. This collection of information concerns research in, and the harvesting and importation of, marine living resources from waters regulated by CCAMLR related to ecosystem research, U.S. harvesting permit application and/or harvesting vessel operators and to importers and re-exporters of Antarctic marine living resources. The collection is necessary in order for the United States to meet its treaty obligations as a contracting party to the Convention.

**Affected Public:** Business or other for profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions; individuals or households.

**Frequency:** Annually and on occasion.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Mandatory.

**Legal Authority:** Public Law 98–623, Sec. 2439 Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0194.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2023–12691 Filed 6–13–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Patent and Trademark Office**

[Docket No. PTO–C–2023–0022]

**Request for Comments on Southeast Regional Office and Community Outreach Office Locations**

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) is seeking information to inform the planning and design of the USPTO

satellite offices (regional offices) and newly-authorized community outreach offices (COOs). The USPTO is also seeking information on potential locations for a future USPTO regional office in the southeast region of the United States (Southeast Regional Office or SERO) and a COO in the northern New England (NNE) region (Northern New England Community Outreach Office) that the USPTO was directed to establish under the Unleashing American Innovators Act of 2022 (UAIA), signed into law as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 on December 29, 2022.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be received by 5 p.m. ET on or before July 17, 2023, and should be submitted in accordance with the instructions in the **ADDRESSES** and **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** sections. No public hearing will be held.

**ADDRESSES:** For reasons of government efficiency, comments must be submitted electronically by completing the form at <https://tinyurl.com/27srysh4>. Complete the required fields using the pre-formatted response form that will allow you to comment on each topic of interest or question you choose to address. You may enter your responses directly into the form or cut and paste your responses from a MICROSOFT WORD® or ADOBE® portable document format (PDF) document into the field provided for each question. You must submit any attachments that provide additional support to a question through the electronic form. Attachments to the form will be accepted as ADOBE® PDF or MICROSOFT WORD® documents. To be considered, comments must be submitted through the electronic form. Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that the submitter does not desire to make public, such as an address or phone number, should not be included in the comments.

If submission of comments through the electronic form is not feasible due to a lack of access to a computer and/or the internet, please contact the USPTO using the contact information below for special instructions regarding how to submit comments by mail or by hand delivery, based on the public's ability to obtain access to USPTO facilities at the time.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shirin Bidel-Niyat, Chief of Staff, Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, at 571–272–8600 or [NewOffices@uspto.gov](mailto:NewOffices@uspto.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Enabled by the 2011 America Invents Act (AIA), the USPTO currently has four regional offices that are located in Detroit, Michigan; San Jose, California (Silicon Valley); Denver, Colorado; and Dallas, Texas. The purposes of the regional offices (ROs), as originally defined in the AIA and amended by the UAIA, are to:

- **RO1:** Better connect patent filers and innovators with the Office, including by increasing outreach activities to individual innovators, small businesses, veterans, low-income populations, students, rural populations, and any geographic group of innovators that the Director may determine to be underrepresented in patent filings;

- **RO2:** Enhance patent examiner and administrative patent judge retention, including patent examiners and administrative patent judges from economically, geographically, and demographically diverse backgrounds;

- **RO3:** Improve recruitment of patent examiners;

- **RO4:** Decrease the number of patent applications waiting for examination; and

- **RO5:** Improve the quality of patent examination.

The USPTO has been focused on outreach and impact, and is working on ways to better support those new to the innovation ecosystem, bringing more people in America into the fold. The USPTO is also studying the role of the regional offices in serving both the public and the needs of our colleagues across the agency.

The UAIA supports the USPTO's expanded outreach efforts by requiring the USPTO to establish, within three years of enactment (*i.e.*, no later than December 29, 2025), a Southeast Regional Office in the geographic region comprised of the states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas. The UAIA requires the Office to consider the following when selecting the site for the SERO:

- **SERO1:** Number of patent-intensive industries that are located near the site;

- **SERO2:** How many research-intensive institutions, including higher education institutions, are located near the site;

- **SERO3:** Governmental and business frameworks, at both the State and local levels, that support intellectual property-intensive industries that are located near the site; and

- **SERO4:** The proximity of the office to anchor institutions (such as hospitals